

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 06046 160717Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 HA-05 /108 W
-----110091 160740Z /14

R 151615Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8446
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL CAPETOWN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 6046

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, SF, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: NEXT STEPS

REF: (A) USUN 1923, (B) USUN 1946, (C) CAPE TOWN 961, (D)
USUN 1904

1. BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER SIR SAM FALLE HAS AN
APPOINTMENT WITH COMMISSIONER GARBA FOR TUESDAY, MAY 16
TO MAKE THE DEMARCHE ON BEHALF OF THE CONTACT GROUP CALLED
FOR IN REFTEL D. THIS OCCASION WILL ALSO PROVIDE AN
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OPPORTUNITY, PER REFTEL B, TO ASCERTAIN FMG VIEWS ON WHERE
THE NAMIBIAN NEGOTIATIONS NOW STAND. (HE WILL HAVE
CONSERVATIVE PARTY FONSEC JOHN DAVIS WITH HIM.)

2.
WE AGREE WITH THE POINT MADE IN PARA E OF REFTEL A THAT
AFRICAN STATES WILL NOW BE RELUCTANT TO URGE SWAPO TO ACCEPT

THE CONTACT GROUP PROPOSAL LEST THE IMPRESSION BE GIVEN THAT THEY ARE REACTING TO PRESSURE EXERTED BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN ATTACK IN ANGOLA. NEVERTHELESS IT APPEARS TO US THAT THE DANGERS INVOLVED IN LETTING CONSIDERABLE TIME PASS WITHOUT A RESUMPTION OF CONTACT GROUP DISCUSSIONS WITH SWAPO ARE SO GREAT THAT WE MUST TRY TO MOVE AHEAD TOWARD THAT OBJECTIVE. AMONG THESE DANGERS IS THAT CITED IN PARA 4 OF REFTEL C, I.E., THAT SOUTH AFRICA MAY SOON TAKE SOME ACTION WHICH WILL MAKE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONTACT GROUP PROPOSAL EVEN MORE DIFFICULT. I THINK IT IS ESSENTIAL TO MAKE EFFORTS ALONG LINES PARA 5 OF REFTEL A TO DISSUADE THE SAG FROM TAKING SUCH ACTION. HAVING IN MIND THE UTILITY OF FRONTLINE PRESENCE AT THE RECENT OWEN/VANCE MEETINGS WITH THE PATRIOTIC FRONT IN DAR ES SALAAM, I SUGGEST WE REMAIN OPEN TO CONSIDERING MERITS OF SIMILAR FRONTLINE COLLABORATION WITH CG IN TALKS WITH SWAPO AT SOME FUTURE TIME.

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Message Attributes

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